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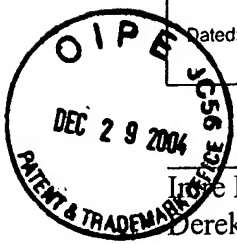
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[Signature]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV335376784US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 12-29-04 Signature: Georgina Matos
(Georgina Matos)

Docket No.: 282172000404
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Derek J. HEI et al.

Application No.: 10/016,323

Art Unit: 1651

Filed: December 10, 2001

Examiner: D. Naff

For: ADSORBING PATHOGEN-INACTIVATING
COMPOUNDS WITH POROUS PARTICLES
IMMOBILIZED IN A MATRIX

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated June 29, 2004 (Paper No. 20040528), for which a response was due on September 29, 2004. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a three month(s) extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to December 29, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.